13. (Amended) A monoclonal antibody that specifically recognizes and binds to an Integrin Associated Protein, wherein the binding of said monoclonal antibody to said Integrin Associated Protein induces apoptosis of nucleated blood cells and wherein said monoclonal antibody is other than 1F7.

18. (Amended) A hybridoma that produces a monoclonal antibody as defined in claim 14.

20. (Amended) An antileukemic agent, comprising a monoclonal antibody or a fragment thereof that specifically recognizes and binds to an Integrin Associated Protein, wherein said binding of said monoclonal antibody or said fragment thereof induces apoptosis of nucleated blood cells.

REMARKS

Claims 13 –23 are pending in the application. Claims 13, 18, and 20 are amended to clearly set forth the nature of the claimed invention. Support for the amendments is found throughout the entire specification, specifically at page 4, lines 6-11 and at page 5, lines 20-25. Claims 22-23 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Therefore, claims 13-21 are presented for reconsideration in view of the remarks below. The amendments do not go beyond the original disclosure of the application.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

The Examiner asserted that claims 20-21 are broadly drawn to "any antileukemic agent" but the specification "only teaches antibodies with this function."

To address the Examiner's concern, Applicants amended claim 20 to recite an antileukemic agent as a monoclonal antibody or a fragment thereof that specifically recognizes and binds to an Integrin Associated Protein and is capable of inducing the apoptosis of nucleated blood cells.

The Examiner also rejected claim 19 on the ground that the specification fails to provide evidence that the claimed biological materials are "known and readily available to the public " and "reproducible from written description."